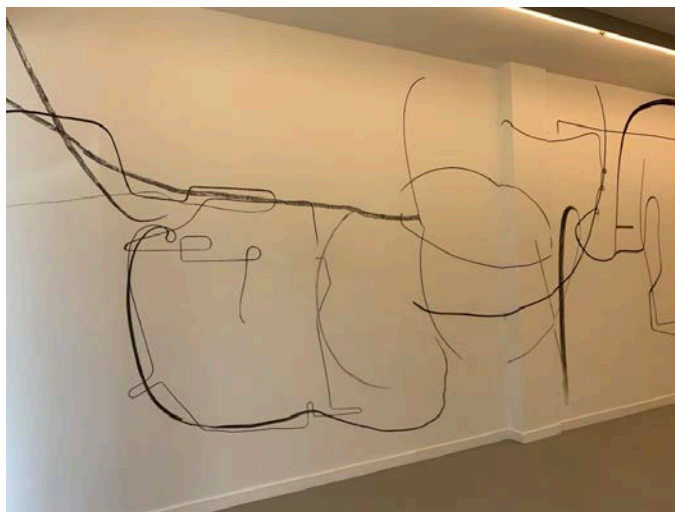


## GAGOSIAN

## ARTNEWS

### Seven Superb Shows to See in Los Angeles During—and After—the Art Fairs

Andrew Russeth



*Partial installation view of “Albert Oehlen: Wall Drawing” at a Gagosian pop-up space in Beverly Hills.*

Being in a city filled with galleries and museums during an art fair makes for both pure pleasure and utter agony. Time is short, and one quickly has to begin making painful decisions about what to see. Such is the case in Los Angeles this week during Frieze, Felix, Art Los Angeles Contemporary, and all the action surrounding the fairs. I feel like Audrey Griswold in *National Lampoon’s European Vacation* (1985), when she dreams about being fed a feast worthy of the Sun King. It’s a thrill at first, but it’s hard to keep up. Below are reviews of seven shows I saw in L.A. this week and loved. Some close this weekend; others will be on view until long after the fairs close down. Plan accordingly, and enjoy.

#### **“Albert Oehlen: Wall Drawing”**

*420a N. Camden Drive, Beverly Hills, presented by Gagosian through March 2*

In classical music, certain unconventional types of instrumental performance like plucking the strings of a piano by hand or drumming on the body of a double bass, are termed “extended techniques.” Anything goes in contemporary art, of course, but German maestro Albert Oehlen’s spare wall drawing at this pop-up would seem to deserve that appellation, as they break rules with courtly aplomb. Perfect straight lines and sensuous curves give way to faltering scribbles, and hard-edged rectangles sit near long skid marks. It’s all connected, you sense, but its underlying system is satisfyingly elusive.